

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

MINOR & MURRAY, Editors.

"SALUS POPULI, SUPREMA LEX ESTO."

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THE BANNER.

"THE MAN OF IRON."

The letter which we publish below is worthy of the source from which it emanated. A man conscious as he must be of the transcendent ability with which he has served his country, requires no proud monumental urn, reared to perpetuate his memory to future ages. The laurels which wreath his brow, were not gathered by chance, a frame upon which seventy winters have spent their fury, scared by the ruthless hand of a mercenary officer, attest the fact that his life has not been passed upon a bed of roses. In spirit he is right—when he says that "I cannot consent that my mortal body shall be laid in a repository, prepared for an emperor or king." If it requires urns, tombs, mausoleums and all such vain pageantries as sometimes shelter the dead to keep green in the memory of the mass, the name of one whose fame is connected with all that is to be honored, one who commenced his career amid the shocks and convulsions of the Revolutionary war, and ended his military life, amid the deafening roar of artillery, and the thunder of cannonade upon the plains of Orleans, then are Republics ungrateful. He requires no gaudy monument to stand as a barrier between his fame, and the waters of oblivion. If the time ever comes when his name and his deeds are forgotten it will be when all things now living shall be mingled with the dead. When the scenes which have made our country the brightest spot upon earth shall be blotted out by the decaying fingers of time, when virtues cease to have its votaries, when patriotism shall no longer thrill the American bosom—when man brutalized by passion, shall forget himself and riot in his own folly; then, and then only, can the name of Andrew Jackson be forgotten.

We give the letter in full:

Hiram, Mo., March 27, 1845.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 13th inst., together with the copy of the proceedings of the National Institute, furnished me by their Corresponding Secretary, on the presentation, by you, of the sarcophagus for their acceptance, on condition it shall be preserved, and in honor of my memory, have been received, & are now before me.

Although laboring under great debility and affliction, from a severe attack from which I may not recover, I raise my pen and endeavor to reply. The steadiness of my nerves may perhaps lead you to conclude my prostration of strength is not so great as here expressed. Strange as it may appear, my nerves are as steady as they were forty years gone by; whilst, from debility and affliction, I grasp for breath.

I have read the whole proceedings of the presentation, by you, of the sarcophagus, and the resolutions passed by the Board of Directors, so honorable to my name, with sensations and feelings more easily to be conjectured than by me expressed. The whole proceedings call for my most grateful thanks, which are hereby tendered to you, and through you to the President and Directors of the National Institute. But with the warmest sensations that can inspire a grateful heart, I must decline accepting the honor intended to be bestowed. I cannot consent that my mortal body shall be laid in a repository prepared for an emperor or a king. My republican feelings and principles forbid it; the simplicity of our system of government forbids it. Every monument erected to perpetuate the memory of our heroes and statesmen, ought to bear evidence of the economy and simplicity of our republican institutions, and the plainness of our republican citizens, who are the sovereigns of our glorious Union, and whose virtue is to perpetuate it. True virtue cannot exist where pomp and parade are the governing passions; it can only dwell with the people—the great laboring and producing classes, that form the bone and sinew of our Confederacy.

For these reasons, I cannot accept the honor you and the President and Directors of the National Institute intended to bestow. I cannot permit my remains to be the first in these United States, to be deposited

in a sarcophagus made for an emperor or king. I again repeat, please accept for yourself, and convey to the President and Directors of the National Institute, my most profound respects for the honor you and they intend to bestow. I have prepared on humble depository for my mortal body beside that wherein lies my beloved wife, where, without any pomp or parade, I have requested, when my body shall be laid to rest, that there remain until the last trumpet sounds to call the dead to judgment, when we, I hope, shall rise together, clothed with that heavenly body promised to all who believe in our glorious Redeemer, who died for us that we might live, and by whose atonement I hope for a blessed immortality.

I am, with great respect,
Your friend and fellow-citizen,
ANDREW JACKSON.
To Gen. J. D. Elliott,
United States Navy.

Last weeks New Era, brought us some strictures upon the Democratic meeting held at Troy, during the session of the last Circuit Court. Our brother bachelor of that concern must have slept while part of the proceedings of the meeting were enacted as he seems to have recollected only a part; and given that part in the fanciful drapery of a dream. We are not willing that the statement of the Era should pass for a correct expose of all the proceedings of that meeting; much less, are we willing to admit all the far-fetched conclusions drawn by its dreaming editor. The Era says "and the chairman did appoint thirteen of the hardest description of loco focos. The apparent object being to exclude entirely those who constituted the soft party of that county. The Harbs seem to think that they have their heels on the necks of the Softs; and intend to keep them there No person said anything but Mr. Martin and Mr. Murray, who appeared to be the factotums of the party. The primary object would seem to be to degrade the Convention into a partisan caucus." Now it would seem to us that the primary object of the Era, was to create dissension in the ranks of the democratic party: Or, why is this mock sympathy about the down-trodden Softs? Why this anxious concern about the Harbism or the Softism of our delegation? Why does he endeavor to produce the impression that the Softs were trodden upon? The object is manifest—he wishes to engender a feeling of distrust in the minds of one portion of the democrats against the other. To excite their jealousy, and alarm their fears to create bickerings, and heart burnings, as if possible, to fan this dissension into open strife between the wings of our party, in order that it may fall an easy prey to whiggery. But the editor has overstepped his mark—he styles us factotum of the hard democracy, while but the other day a sheet of his own political faith, sneeringly called us soft.

Now if a constant and unremitting exertion for the union, and the harmony of our party, will entitle us to that epithet, we are hard or soft, just as the gentleman may choose to call us. But he gives us far more credit than we are willing to assume, while he unjustly detracts from others. He calls us a factotum of the party because we offered one resolution and but one, which was lucky enough to pass—yet he passes by unnoticed, another gentleman who offered a resolution which was passed.

We never aspired to be the factotum of any party, however zealously we may have labored to promulgate the principles of democracy; much less would we aspire to be the factotum of a native American party; while defending the rights, and advocating the claims of Britain and Mexico. Our Americanism though not of the nativist order, would prompt us to defend the name and honor of our country, from the foul aspersions cast upon it by the enemies of liberal principles. We would not magnify the errors of our country; and call the attention of our enemies to them. But if a blot stained our escutcheon, we would endeavor to wipe it out, and if we failed, then draw the veil of con-

cealment over it, rather than point it out to our enemies. The Era seems to be suddenly seized with a most holy horror for all party feeling. What a religious dread is expressed lest, "the convention should be degraded into a partisan caucus." Such cant suits the purposes of the Era, and the whigs most admirably just now. They believe that if they can succeed in persuading the democrats that all the questions to be decided by the Convention, are merely questions of expediency, & not of principle, they may probably succeed in getting a majority of their own political brethren into that body; otherwise their chances will be bad, as a majority of the district are most decidedly democratic. But let us, test their professions by their acts—Let us see if they are willing to vote for democrats in these districts in which they have a decided majority. No, we will find them preparing to elect Whigs in every district in which they think that they have a chance for success. And if a majority of the districts were whig, we would certainly never get a majority of democrats into that Convention; for we should hear a very different song set to music by the whig press. But the secondary object hinted at by the Era; and since, boldly proclaimed by the whigs of Lincoln, is to produce the impression, that the meeting was gotten up for the especial benefit of Mr. Moxley; ay, that it was tacitly agreed upon by the leaders of the party, that the vote of the delegation should be cast for that gentleman. Now so far from that being the fact, it was generally understood among his friends at the time of the meeting, that he could not be prevailed upon to accept a nomination. In consequence of that understanding, he took the chair by the unanimous consent of the party; and the power was given him to nominate the delegates for the Flint Hill Convention; Now if the other aspirants for the nomination had suspected for a moment that he wished a nomination, would they have silently consented that he should nominate the delegates to decide between them? No, for by giving him the power to elect the delegates to choose between them, they in effect gave him the power to nominate himself. Who would call such a farce a nomination? It might suit the purposes of the whigs; but it would be an insult to the honest democracy of the county. The democrats of Lincoln, have too high an opinion of Mr. Moxley, to believe for a moment that he could be guilty of such an indecency, as to accept a nomination at the hands of the delegates named by himself. If he had intended to place his name before the Flint Hill convention, every one who is acquainted with the man, must know that he would have declined nominating the delegates to that convention. Now we will say that the democrats intend to manage their own concerns, in their own way; and that though they hold the talents, and the services of Mr. Moxley in the highest estimation, they hope to find some other democrat who can lead on their united forces, to victory in the approaching contest.

Half of a man is his tongue, and the other his heart—the rest is only an image composed of flesh and blood.—Ex paper.

If this is the composition a man is made of, what is the composition of a woman?

The story about the sudden rise of lumber in Pittsburg, is all a fal-de-rall. The Gazette of the 18th inst., says dealers are selling at the old price, and that the lumber has not been bought up.—[Era]

They who will abandon a friend for one error, know but little of the human character, and prove that their hearts are cold as their judgments weak.

A SHREWD IDEA.

It has been observed that some spiders, with an instinctive sagacity, select as the greatest security from disturbance, the lids of the charity-boxes in churches, or the pocket-books of editors.

HISTORY OF THE WHIG PARTY.

The veteran Whig of the Richmond Enquirer, in an address to the people of Virginia, as chairman of the Democratic Central Committee, gives the following account of whiggery.

The victory of 1844, has much to be done before we are freed from the control and influence of misguided men. still have foes to encounter, dangers to meet, and obstacles to avoid. Not only in our own State, but throughout the Union, we see a party formidable numbers, and strengthened by the vast influence of incorporated wealth, directing all its energies against the rules of constitutional construction and principles of public policy, on which the freedom, happiness and prosperity of the country depend. However much the different portions of that party may vary, in the arguments by which they endeavor to justify their measures in the different portions of the country, it should be remembered that they strive for the attainment of a common object, and that their success must give a character to our Government in its practical operations, which the framers of the Constitution would not have anticipated.

To avoid this consummation, the Democratic party has directed its whole energies. From an early period in our history to the present time it has contended, that from the nature of the General Government, created as an agent, and entrusted with prescribed powers, must confine itself strictly within the commission conferred by those who called it into existence. In every attempt to carry out this principle in the practical operations of the Government, it has met with formidable opposition. A considerable portion of the people acting at different times, under different party names, have contended for such a construction of the Constitution, as would empower the Federal Government to sit in judgement on the Constitution itself to destroy its guarantees by implication, & perpetuate injustice by giving a binding force to precedents established by itself. This construction, predicated on the supposition that the people of the States of this confederacy were consolidated, by the adoption of our federative system, into one body politic, with a government acting as the representative of its sovereignty, is fraught with the most dangerous consequences. The doctrine, would convert our State into a mere district or department of the United States, with its reserved rights under the control of the very Government to which it refused to surrender them, and all its domestic interests at the mercy of men responsible to a distant constituency for their public conduct.

These principles were once so alarming to the great body of our people, that the very name of the party which professed them became an epithet of reproach. But since the defeat of the younger Adams, which was through a final overthrow, the principles of his party, aided by fortuitous circumstances, have been made more acceptable to the nation. All the elements of opposition to the administration of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren were forced to act in concert with those who had supported Mr. Adams. Although the party thus formed was composed of such discordant elements that it could agree on no homogeneous system of policy, it found a powerful ally in the extreme distress and consequent desire for change produced by the derangement of our monetary affairs; and succeeded in electing Gen. Harrison to the Chief Magistracy of the Union, who had declared a National Bank to be unconstitutional, and stood pledged to regard the compromise of the Tariff as sacred and inviolable. The Whig party, which united its forces and gained the control of the government by professing the leading principles of the Republican faith, as soon as practicable, carried through Congress a Bank bill more objectionable than any which had preceded it—distributed the proceeds of the sales of public lands from an exhausted treasury—violated the compromise of the tariff, and framed a scale of duties at war with those which both parties had solemnly pledged themselves before the country to support, as the permanent policy of the Government.

A common name and the labors of

an arduous contest had the usual effect of uniting those who had co-operated with each other. Party discipline and the well-known necessity of supporting a particular candidate for the Presidency, completed this consolidation, as far as it was practicable. But happily, there were many over whom party names had no control, who saw the tendency of the measure forced upon the Whig party by those who represented the incorporated wealth of the country, & resolutely opposed the party which had duped and deceived them. The Whig forces, consolidated by the process which we have endeavored to explain, were compelled to adopt the principles of a majority, sanctioned as they were by the concurrence of the man who stood most prominent as their leader.

The effective majority of the party being at the North, determined the course of the Whigs, not only on the Bank, Tariff, and Distribution questions; but at a later period, succeeded in arraying it against the most important question which has agitated the country since the formation of the Government. The non-Slave-holding States which were known to sanction the Whig policy, did not leave the reasons of their opposition to the annexation of Texas in doubt or obscurity. Hostility to the slave institutions of the South, and a determination not to allow their future extension, were boldly and unequivocally proclaimed to the world as the basis of their action; and the Abolitionists were distinctly invited, in the name of the whole Whig party, to lend their aid in a common cause. It was not pretended, to our knowledge that the rights of the North would be endangered, its interests compromised, or its prosperity impeded.

The Whigs of the non-Slave-holding States thought themselves privileged to it in judgement on the character of the South, and of making it the duty of the Federal Government to take, under its supervision, the domestic institutions of the high contracting parties who created it, as a mere agent, for other and far different purposes.

The issue was distinctly made, and it was to be hoped, that no Southerner would be introduced by party considerations, however strong, to be wanting in his duty, when our rights were thus endangered, and our honor likely to be compromised. This hope was not fulfilled. The Whigs of the South, true to party discipline co-operated with the Whigs of the North upon the vital measure. They endeavored to justify their conduct by such shallow arguments, that we are compelled to believe nothing except party discipline, could have placed them in a position which they could but so impotently defend. Although Texas had maintained her independence for a number of years, and had been received into the family of nations by the leading powers of Christendom—although she was confessedly independent in fact, and made rightfully independent by the forcible destruction, by Mexico, of the only instrument which united her with that Republic—although she had been victorious in resisting a conquest, and not in effecting a revolution, it was contended that the U. States could not treat with her for territory, without committing an act of spoliation on a friendly power—a power which had attempted forcibly to subdue the country that we wished peaceably to annex to our confederacy. An ordinary treaty of peace and amity, was, contrary to the laws of nations, made an insurmountable barrier to such a proceeding, while ideas of national honor, before unknown, were heard on every side from lips which uttered no word of reproach to Great Britain, though it was generally conceded that her Majesty's Government was ready to perpetuate the alleged wrong on Mexico, by guaranteeing the independence of Texas against the world.

When opposition to a great measure is so badly defended, we must believe that some cause, not apparent on the surface, is at work. And when we see so many members of that opposition railing against the measures because of the influence it was calculated to have over the result of a political contest, all doubt vanishes. We are then convinced that party policy and party discipline have usurped the position which belongs to reason and judgement.—

The motives which regulated the course of the Northern Whigs, on the question of annexation, are notorious. The necessity of uniting the party on a great question, if it would triumph, is equally plain; and the line of policy adopted by the Whigs, in consequence, as we believe, of that necessity, should be remembered by the people long after all agitation on this subject has finally ceased.

There is a beautiful monument to the memory of Dr. Hagan, late editor of the Vicksburg Sentinel.—[Grand Gulf Star.]

ROMANTIC.

The Columbus Whig of the 13th inst., publishes the following curious matrimonial occurrence in that country.

A few weeks since, a gentleman of our county, (Lowndes,) addressed a lady with whom he was in love, & his suit being successful, a day was appointed for their marriage. A few days before the consummation, the lady thinking better of her promise, ran away with another. The disappointed lover, hearing that his affianced had anticipated him in marrying, resolved, with praiseworthy perseverance, to have a wife any how, and accordingly courted a few days after, the sister of his former intended. This time he was a little more successful, and a week after the day appointed for the consummation of the first engagement, witnessed the solemnization of his marriage with her sister.

SLANDER.

Against slander there is no defence. Hell cannot boast so foul a fiend, nor man deplore so foul a foe; it is with a word—with a nod—with a look—with a smile; it is the pestilence walking in darkness, spreading contagion far and wide, which the most wary traveller cannot avoid. It is the most heart-searching dagger of the dark assassin. It is the poisoned arrow whose sting is incurable. It is the mortal sting of the deadly adder. Murder is its employment; its success its prey, and ruin its sport.

A modern writer says: "If you see half a dozen faults in a woman, you may rest assured she has a hundred virtues to counterbalance them. We love your faulty and faultless woman. When you see what is termed a faultless woman, dread her as you would a beautiful colored snake. The art of completely concealing the defects that she must have, is of itself a serious vice."

A young married couple riding home from the church out west, on a rainy day, the husband looking up and perceiving the clouds were breaking away; said, "I hope we shall have a little sun."

"Oh, la! my dear," whispered the innocent wife, "I would much prefer a little daughter."

A married man named Leclerc was killed by a gun-shot at his fire-side. A plot extending to five persons, had long sought his life—his wife, a servant woman, and three of the servants relatives, these all accused the wife and charged that she was constantly urging them to rid her of her husband. The investigation brought to light several previous attempts at poisoning Leclerc, by medicated wine and otherwise, but still there was no corpus delicti—nothing positive. When, soon after the arrest, a gardener passing by the wall of the house where the servant girl lived, picked up a small packet nicely tied, on which was written ARSENIC, and so it proved to be. The gardener then examined the wall, and perceived an opening, apparently covered over with moss. Conjecturing that the paper had fallen from this hole, he put his hand in, when a small bird immediately flew out, and upon examination it seemed that this bird in making its nest in this hole, had thrown out of it this little packet. The paper enclosing the ARSENIC was the torn leaf of a prayer book—and the prayer book of Mde Leclerc had the same leaf missing—and on adapting the torn leaf to the book, it was found to fit.—Upon this fact, the woman was condemned to death. Without the little bird she would have escaped.

A new steamer called Quebec was launched at that city a few days ago. Gaz.